ACCOUNT

OF A GREAT

ENGAGEMENT

Which hapned between the *Engliſh Squadron*, under the Command of Vice-Admiral HERBERT, and the whole *French Fleet*, near the Coaſt of *Ireland*, on the *Firſt* of *May*, 1689.

With Allowance.

HIS Majeſty's Naval Forces having taken the Seas, under the Command of Vice-Admiral *Herbert*; In order to Curb the Inſults of the *French*, and to hinder their Attempts upon the Kingdom of *Ireland*, &c. After ſeveral Succeſsful Enterprizes, and ſuppreſſing the *French-Capers* and *Privateers*, reſcuing ſeveral Prizes they had taken and were carrying into their Harbours, Braving the Naval Forces of the *French-King*, with a ſmall number of Ships in his chief Harbour, &c. And reſolute to proſecute the Glorious War againſt the Diſturbers of *Chriſtendom*: The *Engliſh* underſtanding the *French* were gotten to Sea, under the favour of the Night, and contrary Winds that hindred ours for ſtanding in, or bearing up with them, and miſtruſting they made for *Ireland*, they ſtood to that Coaſt to prevent their Landing any Forces to Diſtreſs the *Proteſtants*. On the Firſt of *May* Inſtant, the *Engliſh* got ſight of them lying in the Bay of *Bantree* in the *Weſt* of *Ireland*, near the County of *Kerry*, and reſolving forthwith to enter the Bay and Attacque them, the Wind unluckily Chopt about, and blew hard at *Weſt North-weſt*, ſo that we could not but with abundance of Difficulty turn into the Bay.

But reſolving by any means to get in to them, with Nine of our Ships, the Admiral himſelf leading them, they Advance; which the *French* perceiving, with full Sail before the Wind, they make up and meet us. The *French* Fleet conſiſted of Twenty Nine Sail of Men of War, beſides Tenders; Ours but Nineteen in the whole, whereof Five only could fully come up to Engage. Our Admiral had immediately ſeven of their beſt Ships upon his Quarter, and the *French* Admiral lying on the other Broad-ſide of him, but notwithſtanding the Inequality, our brave Admiral never ſtirr'd off the Quarter-deck encouraging his Men, both by his Orders and Example; the reſt of our Ships that could come up, charging them Board to Board, diſcharging their Broad-ſides, Grappling, and couragiouſly Fighting on the Decks, thundring in their Vollies of Small Shot, Killing their Men in great number, and renting their Sails, Maſts, and Rigging, thereby very much Diſabling them, continuing reſolutely Engaged till Night parted them: And although the *Engliſh*, much inferiour in Number, and wanting the Weather-gage, which greatly hindred them, did not gain the Advantage they otherwiſe might undoubtedly have had, yet nothing was wanting that might teſtify their continued Gallantry and Bravery, and to ſhew the *French* that they are not to diſpute with them the Soveraignty of th Ocean. As to the Particulars of the Loſs on either ſide we are wanting; however it Reported on all hands, the *Engliſh* have not loſt one Veſſel: Yet under the favour of Engagement, the *French* having Landed a few Men, retreated, diſpairing notwithſta ing the advantage of their number, of any anſwerable ſucceſs, though our Admiral ſolves to ſtick cloſe to them. And in a little time we doubt not (under God) to ma good the Juſtice of our Cauſe, and pull down the Pride of that Antichriſtian Mona who has ſo long diſturb'd the Peace of the whole Chriſtian World.

LONDON: Printed by *W. Davis*. 1689.